

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01518 190028Z

61

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 113085

P 182340Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6823

S E C R E T SAN JOSE 1518

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: DEPUTY REQUESTS FIGUERES LETTER TO PRESIDENT  
NIXON

REF: SAN JOSE 1279

1. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPUTY RAFAEL VALLADARES CAME TO THE EMBASSY TODAY TO REQUEST FROM THE SEC A SPECIFIC DOCUMENT WHICH HE SAID SEC OFFICIALS HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE TO HIM. VALLADARES WANTS A COPY OF PRESIDENT FIGUERES' LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON IN WHICH THE COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT REQUESTED FAVORABLE TREATMENT FOR ROBERT VESCO. VALLADARES SAID THAT SEC OFFICIALS, DURING HIS MEETING IN WASHINGTON WITH THEM, HAD AGREED TO FURNISH HIM WITH A COPY OF THIS LETTER AS IT WAS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. VALLADARES SAID HE HAD EXPECTED THIS LETTER TO HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE MATERIALS HE RECEIVED THROUGH THE EMBASSY FROM THE SEC. VALLADARES WROTE OUT A REQUEST FOR OUR RECORDS ALONG THE ABOVE LINES.

2. VALLADARES INTENDS TO SPEAK AGAINST VESCO, ETC. ON THE FLOOR OF THE LEGISLATURE ON MONDAY, APRIL 22 IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSEMBLY COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE MUTUAL FUNDS WHICH RETURNED A MAJORITY VERDICT LAST MAY WHITEWASHING VESCO AND HIS INVOLVEMENT IN COSTA RICA. VALLADARES POINTED OUT TO THE EMBASSY THAT IN HIS ONE-MAN MINORITY REPORT DISSENTING FROM THE MAJORITY POSITION.

SECRET

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01518 190028Z

TION AT THAT TIME, HE INCLUDED LANGUAGE TO FORMALLY HOLD

OPEN THE DOOR TO FURTHER INVESTIGATION. VALLADARES SAID THAT LUIS ALBERTO MONGE, PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, AGREED TO FINANCE HIS FACT FINDING TRIP TO EUROPE, PRECISELY BECAUSE THE COMMISSION'S WORK HAD STILL NOT BEEN FORMALLY CONCLUDED. IN HIS SPEECH, VALLADARES INTENDS TO REVEAL THAT VESCO, STRICKLER AND LEBLANC ARE FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES AND IF THEY RETURN TO THESE COUNTRIES WILL WIND UP IN JAIL. HE ALSO INTENDS TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT FIGUERES HIMSELF, IF TRAVELLING IN SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, NAMELY SWITZERLAND AND FRANCE, CONCEIVABLY COULD BE ARRESTED AS AN ACCOMPLICE.

3. VALLADARES WANTS THE COPY OF THE FIGUERES LETTER TO READ DURING HIS SPEECH.

4. WE HAVE APPRISED VALLADARES OF THE DELICACY OF THE REQUEST HE HAS MADE TO THE EMBASSY AND THE POSSIBLE DAMAGING REPERCUSSIONS WHICH COULD RESULT FROM FIGUERES ADMINISTRATION KNOWLEDGE OF EMBASSY ASSOCIATION WITH HIM. HE WAS TOLD, MOREOVER, THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD ONLY PROVIDE THE LETTER IF IT WAS ALREADY A PUBLIC DOCUMENT.

5. WE BELIEVE, BUT DID NOT TELL VALLADARES, THAT FOR THE USG TO PROVIDE HIM WITH THIS DOCUMENT WOULD BE AN UNACCEPTABLE VIOLATION OF PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HEADS OF STATE REGARDLESS OF ITS CONTENT AND IN ANY CASE WOULD HAVE ADVERSE POLITICAL IMPACT, AND THEREFORE WE DO NOT RPT NOT RECOMMEND GIVING HIM A COPY OF LETTER. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE TEXT OF THE LETTER DID APPEAR IN THE PRESS AND A CLIPPING CAN BE PROVIDED, THIS WOULD SURELY SERVE VALLADARES' PURPOSES WHILE NOT POTENTIALLY PREJUDICING THE EMBASSY'S POSITION.

LANE

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O, R. ELTZ.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SANJO01518  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740091-0334  
**From:** SAN JOSE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740433/aaaabcvr.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** SAN JOSE 1279  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPUTY REQUESTS FIGUERES LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, CS, US, SEC, (FIGUERES FERRER, JOSE), (NIXON, RICHARD M), (VESCO, ROBERT), (VALLADARES, RAFAEL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005